

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 SAJ-01 IO-12 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 DPW-01 RSR-01 /150 W
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R 301150 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3039

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3141

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, IN PK, CB

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF PRC AMBASSADOR

1. I SAW YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR APRIL 28 AT WHICH TIME HE RELATED TO ME FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF HIS RECENT CONVERSATION WITH NEW PRC AMBASSADOR, KAN YEH- TAO.

2. REGARDING GENERAL SITUATION IN EAST ASIA, CHINESE (PRC) AMBASSADOR SAID CEASEFIRE IN VIETNAM CONSTITUTED A BARRIER TO THE SOVIET POLICY IN ASIA, AND IN PARTICULAR CHECKS MOSCOW' S ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A MOSCOW- DOMINATED SECURITY SYSTEM IN ASIA DIRECTED AGAINST CHINA. IN EAST ASIA, PRINCIPAL ITEM OF IMPORTANCE IS THE WITHDRAWAL OF US FROM VIETNAM. EVERYTHING ELSE IS SECONDARY AND OF PASSING SIGNIFICANCE, EVEN ATTEMPTS BY SAIGON REGIME TO SAFEGUARD AND PRESERVE ITS POSITION WITH AMERICAN AID. EVEN POSSIBILITY OF RESUMPTION OF AMERICAN AIR RAIDS AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM HE REGARDS AS TEMPORARY ITEM WHICH WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CHANGE THE OVERALL, FAVORABLE (TO CHINA) DEVELOPMENT.

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3. REGARDING CAMBODIA, PRC AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS

OPTIMISTIC, AND FEELS THAT EVENTS ARE FAVORABLE TO THE NATIONAL FRONT. HE ENVISAGES IMMINENT COLLAPSE OF THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT.

4. REGARDING EVENTS ON THE SUBCONTINENT, PRC AMBASSADOR STATED THAT THE GESTURE BY NEW DELHI AND BANGLA DESH FOR THE RETURN OF PAKISTANI PRISONERS OF WAR MANIFESTS THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF INDIA IN THE MANNER IN WHICH ITS POLICY REGARDING THE POW' S HAS AROUSED THE REACTION OF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION, AND HAS AGGRAVATED NEW DELHI' S INTERNATIONAL POSITION. PAKISTAN WILL ACCEPT NO SOLUTION WHICH IMPLIES RETENTION BY INDIA OR BANGLA DESH OF ANY PRISONERS OF WAR. AS FAR AS RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PRC AND INDIA ARE CONCERNED, THEY CANNOT BECOME NORMALIZED UNTIL THE INDIANS LIBERATE ALL PAKISTANI PRISONERS OF WAR AND ABANDON INDIA' S COMPLETE ADHERENCE TO THE SOVIET UNION' S ANTI-CHINESE POLICY.

5. REGARDING SINO- SOVIET RELATIONS, PRC AMBASSADOR STATES THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN USSR AND PRC ARE WORSENING (AND YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR AGREES WITH THIS ANALYSIS) , BUT PRC AMBASSADOR THEN STATED THAT THIS IS EVIDENCE OF USSR' S " LOSING ITS COOL " BECAUSE OF GENERAL TREND OF EVENTS IN ASIA WHICH, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE ARMISTICE IN VIETNAM, ARE RUNNING IN A DIRECTION UNFAVORABLE TO MOSCOW. FOR SAME REASON, PRC IS DETERMINED TO CONTROL ITS TEMPER DESPITE USSR PROVOCATIONS BECAUSE THUS THE OUTCOME WILL BE ONLY MORE IN PRC' S FAVOR. (YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR ALSO INDICATED HIS AGREEMENT WITH THAT ANALYSIS.)

6. PRC AMBASSADOR CHARACTERIZED SITUATION IN NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST AS BOTH " EMBARRASSING AND COMPLEX ," CONSTITUTING A SITUATION OF NEITHER " PEACE NOR WAR." THIS, HOWEVER, IS IN CONFORMITY WITH BOTH SOVIET AND AMERICAN INTERESTS. WHILE AMERICAN ATTITUDE IS AT LEASE UNDERSTANDABLE, SOVIET POLICY IS ONE OF PERFDY BECAUSE IT PRETENDS THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS THE BEST FRIEND OF THE ARABS WHILE IT ACTUALLY EXPLOITS DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH ITS OWN POWER IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE MEDITERRANEAN. FOR THIS REASON, PRC WILL NOT SUPPORT WHATEVER RESOLUTION ON THE NEAR EAST THE USSR INTRODUCES OR SUPPORTS IN THE UN.

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7. REGARDING AMERICAN- CHINESE RELATIONS, PRC AMBASSADOR COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE EXCHANGE OF LIAISON MISSIONS AND SAID THAT THERE REMAINS ONLY ONE MORE STEP FOR COMPLETE NORMALIZATION, THAT IS TAIWAN. HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT AN URGENT QUESTION, AND SHOULD NOT DISTURB THE IMPROVING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IT (TAIWAN) WILL WORK ITSELF OUT IN TIME.

8. COMMENT: THIS CONVERSATION PRESENTS INTERESTING CONTRAST WITH

CHINESE AMBASSADOR' S POLITE REFUSAL ENGAGE IN ANY DISCUSSION OF
" POLITICAL MATTERS" WHEN HE PAID HIS FIRST OFFICIAL CALL ON ME
(APRIL 30) IN MY CAPACITY AS DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS. EVIDENTLY
HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON CONTACTS WITH US OFFICIALS STILL ARE QUITE
RESTRICTIVE AS TO SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATIONS. MEANWHILE, HOWEVER,
PRC OFFICIALS ARE MORE AND MORE FRIENDLY AND ACTIVE ON LOCAL
DIPLOMATIC SCENE. OF SARTORICAL AND PERHAPS POLITICAL NOTE
WAS APPEARANCE OF PRC AMBASSADOR AND HIS INTERPRETER IN WESTERN
STYLE SUITS RATHER THAN USUAL UNIFORM AT MY RECENT FAREWELL
RECEPTION FOR A DEPARTING DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUE, AND AGAIN TODAY
IN HIS CALL AT U. S. EMBASSY.
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